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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/892,525	06/28/2001	John D. Barnard	2908.P3	4923

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EXAMINER	
TANG, KAREN C	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2151	

DATE MAILED: 06/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/892,525	BARNARD ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Karen C. Tang	2151	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *11 May 2006*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-11,14-39,42-67,70-95,98-113,115,117 and 119* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☐ Claim(s) *1-11, 14-39, 42-67, 70-95, 98-113, 115, 117, 119* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

- This action is responsive to the amendment and remarks file on 5/11/06.
- Claims 1, 29, 57, and 85 are amended, and claims 1-11, 14-39, 42-67, 70-95, 98-113, 115, 117, and 119 are present for further examination.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-8, 10-11, 14, 19-23. 28-36, 38-39, 42, 47-51, 56-64, 66-67, 70, 75-79, 84-92, 94- 95, 98, 103-107 and 112, 113, 115, 117, and 119 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over White et al (EP 952513. White", hereinafter) and Richter et al. (US 6.678.068 "Richter." hereinafter) and in further view of Lomas et al hereinafter Lomas (US 6989910).

2. Regarding claims 1, 28-29, 56-57, 84-85, and 112-120, White discloses a method, system and. computer programs record in computer readable mediums (a "system" hereinafter), for managing a plurality of printing devices connected on a network, comprising means, steps and instructions for: detecting a printing device connected on the network; requesting information from the detected printing device; receiving the requested information from the printing device; creating a print queue for the printing device based on the received information; accessing user-

configurable parameters for the print queue (abstract, Fig.1; 13, indicates that users-configurable parameters in fact is prior art to White; 18). White is silent on publishing print queue to network. However, publishing print queue, i.e., displaying, announcing, notifying presenting advertising, print queue or status of printer, print's queues or print's spool to a client device in a network, was conventional, which had readily been employed long before the instant invention was made. White teaches accessing policy rules for the print queues (users are able to config proper parameters (accessing policy rules)), and publishing the printer queue to the network according to said policy rules (so that the printer can be utilized for the network due to the configuration)). White also discloses the policy rules (conf proper parameters, 0002) regulates use of the print queue by client workstations connected to the network (the configuration parameters allows the printer to be used on the network). The configuration parameters are entered by the user (administrators).

Evidently, in the same field of endeavor, Richter, clearly teaches the same (see Richter, figures 24-30, and corresponding details Col. 13, line 25 et seq.) Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate a publishing-print-queue idea or the like with White, autonomous configurable print queue system. Because, such combination or modification would enable users to obtain status or printers or prints' queue, and/or locations, availability of printing device from server without having to physically walk to specific printing locations), thereby increasing user convenience and reducing time unnecessary time consuming, which in turn would improve efficiency of the operation-unit.

White nor Richter does not expressly indicate the policy rules are entered by a system administrator.

Lomas expressly indicate that the policy rules are entered by a system administrator (refer to Col 1, Lines 15-25).

In the same endeavor, White, Richter and Lomas clearly teaches the same field. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate a system administrator which is the one that changes the policy rules, which provide flexibility to manage queues in the printing system.

3. Regarding claims 2-8, 10-11, 19-23, 30-36, 38-39, 47-51, 58-64, 66-67, 75-79, 86-92, 94- 95, and 103-107, White-Richter discloses the system further includes, detecting an address assignment message sent between an address server and the printing device over the network (White-Richter's system also employs DHCP standard, White teaches printer driver, i.e., type and capability of printer included, is transmitted to printing system, White's 13, 18).

4. Claims 9, 37, 65 and 93 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over White-Richter as applied to claims 1, 29, 57, 85 above and in further view of Lomas et al hereinafter Lomas (US 6989910) and Clough (US 6,820,124).

5. Regarding claims 9, 37, 65 and 93, White-Richter discloses the invention substantially, as claimed, as described, but it is silent on communication by using SNMP. However, SNMP are standard for communicating message with a network, specifically it has been utilized in particular for communicating message between printer and its host, the aforesaid is evidently taught in Clough. Thus, including a standard that is set forth for specific purpose for functioning

the same would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art. Because, adopting SNMP for communication messages, as suggested in Clough, would be a simplistic process of desiring system and enhancing system's flexibility, in which ordinary artisan would look for, before reinvent a new way of communication.

6. Claims 14-18. 24-27. 42-46. 52-55. 70-74. 80-83. 98-102 and 108-111 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over White-Richter, as applied to claims 1, 29, 57 and 85 above and in further view of Lomas et al hereinafter Lomas (US 6989910) and Lee (US 6.628.413).

7. Regarding claims 14-18, 24-27, 42-46, 70-74 and 98-102, White discloses the invention substantially, including configuring IP addresses, print queue name, print server and its capabilities (White's teaching printer acquire IP address using DHCP 15; Richter teaches GUI, publishing IP address (266) in figure 24, printer or queue name (124) in figure 25, capabilities (166) in figure 24). White-Richter is silent on including MAC address and printing policy with a configurable parameter. However, MAC address is inherent in network computing device, thus to include the MAC address as a configuration parameter would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made that was a matter of choice, since White-Richter clearly is capable of configuring printing device using IP address as configurable parameter, thus, using other type of address, such as MAC address, would be conceivable to an artisan. In addition, in the same field of endeavor, Lee teaches an inventive concept that uses JAVA programming to create print queue(s) web page(s), which contains a

plurality of links representing each of the print queue(s) entries in the print queue(s) configurable database. Further, Lee also teaches that the JAVA printer is widely utilized for publishing printer queue(s) on a web page to enable clients to control printer. Furthermore, Lee teaches publishing rules and allowing user or administrator to change rules for controlling printer tasks, maximum job size, what type or image and to whom the print cost should be allocated, i.e., printing policy (Lee, Fig. 3). Thus associated printer queue with web page is not new, but rather would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to do so, because it would enable users or administrators to remotely configure or reconfigure or control printers' operation in various applications, including cost control, as suggested in Lee (Col. 4, line 22- Col. 5, line 55 and Fig. 3).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-11, 14-39, 42-67, 70-95, 98-113, 115, 117, and 119 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Karen C. Tang whose telephone number is (571)272-3116. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7 - 3.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Zarni Maung can be reached on (571)272-3939. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KT

ZARNI MAUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER